

"Even against the greatest of odds, there is something in the human spirit - a magic blend of skill, faith, and valor - that can lift a man from certain defeat to incredible victory."

-Walter Lord

# Historic Preservation on Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge

Midway Atoll was recently designated a National Memorial to commemorate the heroic courage and sacrifice of those who fought in the Battle of Midway (Secretary Order 3217, September 13, 2000). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service assumed management of the atoll in 1996 and is committed to the long term protection, conservation, and interpretation of Midway's history. Six structures have been designated a National Historic Landmark and more than 60 other buildings are recognized as historically important.

Working with partners such as Oceanic Society's Elderhostel program and our on-island cooperator Midway Phoenix Corporation, the Service has initiated several historic preservation projects, some funded in part through a *Save America's Treasures* grant and other restoration grants. While the number of buildings requiring conservation looms large, we are always seeking new partners to help with this effort to preserve Midway's past. A few of the projects we have accomplished are highlighted below and on the reverse.



- Restored one of three remaining ARMCO huts used in World War II.

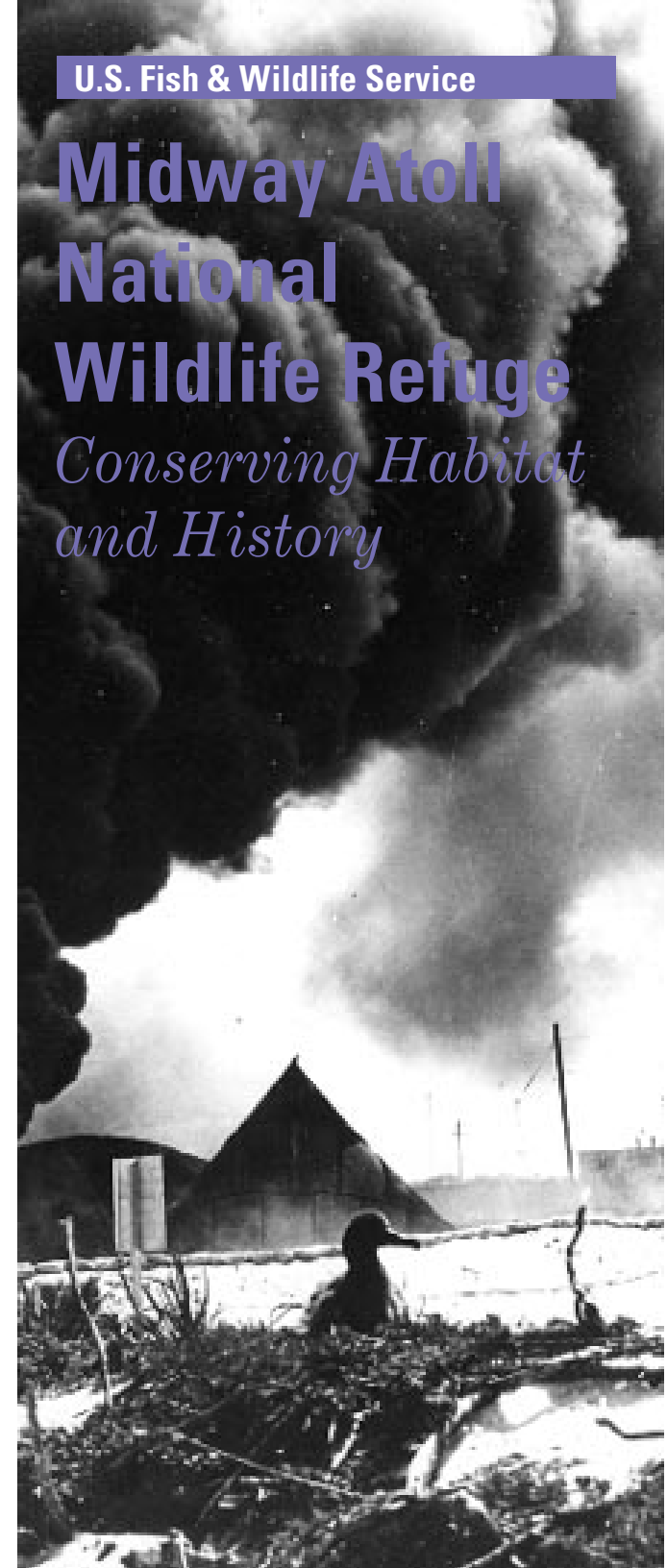


- Preserved the 3-inch anti-aircraft gun on Eastern Island.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

## Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge

*Conserving Habitat  
and History*







- Re-roofed the Officer's Houses and Theater designed by Albert Kahn and built in 1941.



- Restored the metal bolt plate in Batteries A, B, and C on Sand Island.



- Stripped 16 layers of paint and treated the metal on the 5-inch guns flanking the Midway Mall with rust-inhibiting paint. These guns are similar to those used at Batteries A, B, and C during the Battle.



- Stabilized one of the Cable Station buildings with a new roof and interior repairs.

## Ongoing Projects Include:

- Interviewing visitors with a special knowledge regarding Midway.
- Developing a library of references for on-island research.
- Sharing the history of Midway with visitors in regular walking tours enlivened by interpretive panels at key locations.
- Controlling termites in historic buildings.
- Continuing restoration of historic structures and buildings.

*Photo credits: Jeff Dodge, Don Corwin, Dave Pinyerd,  
Lou Ann Speulda, Robert Shallenberger, Naval Historical Center*



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